

RELATED APPLICATIONS

C1 This application claims the benefit of prior application U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/099,471, filed 08 September 1998, and of prior application U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/112,855, filed 16 December 1998, the specifications of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter re-written claim 14 as listed below.

- Sub D1  
C2
14. (Twice Amended) A method for diagnosing a renal disorder characterized by overproduction of extracellular matrix, or identifying a predisposition or susceptibility to a renal disorder characterized by overproduction of extracellular matrix, in a subject, the method comprising:
- (a) obtaining a sample from the subject;
  - (b) detecting the level of CTGF in the sample; and
  - (c) comparing the level of CTGF in the sample to a standard level of CTGF, wherein increased levels of CTGF are indicative of the presence of a renal disorder.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 18 were originally filed. Claims 1 to 18 were subject to a Restriction Requirement. Applicants elected, with traverse, claims 14 to 18, corresponding to Group IX. Claims 1 to 13 were withdrawn from consideration, and claims 14 to 18 are under examination. A version of the claims with markings showing changes made is attached as Appendix A.

Justification for the amendments is as follows. The amendment to the specification was made to incorporate reference to prior applications. The amendment to claim 14 was made to further clarify the claimed invention. In particular, support for amended claim 14 is found throughout the specification, for example, in Example 12, which provides methods for determining the amount of CTGF in a sample. No new matter is added by any of the above amendments.